



Kitty Has Stopped Using the Litter Box

There are several reasons that would cause a cat to stop using the litter box: stress, illness, or confusion. Consider the location of the litter box, the type of litter, the amount of litter in the box, and the cleanliness of the box.

To some cats, location is very important. The litter box should be kept in a spot that affords your cat some privacy yet is conveniently located for cleaning purposes. She may be too scared to go all the way across the living room to the laundry room to use her box. Try adding a box near where she hides out during the day.

Her potty problems might also be a space issue. Some cats don't like to be confined while using the box; if your box has a lid, try removing the lid. If it's in a tight corner, or the box is on the smaller side, try a larger box or in a bigger area to give kitty plenty of room to maneuver.

When it comes to litter, if kitty was on **Dr. Elsey's Precious Cat Litter** and you switched to another type of litter, kitty may be confused. Try mixing litters, adding a little more of your brand and less of kitty's original brand each time. Urine and feces should be scooped out at least once a day and litter should be dumped weekly depending on the number of cats in your household. As a rule, you should have one box per cat.

If kitty is still urinating out of the box, try secluding kitty to a small area such as a bathroom. Give her a clean litter box, her food/water bowls and a comfy bed. She should stay in the bathroom for a week after she starts using the box again.

If issues continue, you will want to make sure your kitty is not ill. A UTI (urinary tract infection) can cause kitty to stop using the box and start using the floor. Think of it as kitty telling you "I don't feel good, and I need your help". Symptoms of a UTI include frequent trips to the box resulting in little or no urine, blood in the urine, or howling while attempting to urinate. UTIs are easily treatable by your veterinarian.

Please reach out to us if you have any questions or issues: info@kneadingkittysrescueaz.com

Kneading Kitty's Rescue